

**Lesson  
2**

# **Predicate Adjectives**

## *Teaching*

A **predicate adjective** is an adjective that follows a linking verb and describes the verb's subject. The linking verb connects the predicate adjective with the subject.

The sinking of the *Titanic* was totally disastrous. (The linking verb is *was*. The predicate adjective is *disastrous*.)

Often, forms of *be* are linking verbs, as in the above example. However, predicate adjectives can also follow other linking verbs such as *taste*, *smell*, *feel*, *look*, *become*, and *seem*.

Such a catastrophe seemed completely impossible. (The linking verb is *seemed*. The predicate adjective is *impossible*.)

## **Identifying Predicate Adjectives**

Underline the predicate adjective in each sentence. If the sentence has no predicate adjective, write **None** on the line to the right.

1. In 1912, of all the ships in the world, the *Titanic* was the largest. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Everyone thought it was unsinkable. \_\_\_\_\_
3. As the ship set out on its first voyage, the passengers felt jubilant. \_\_\_\_\_
4. However, the icebergs around the ship looked ominous. \_\_\_\_\_
5. As soon as the ship hit an iceberg, its sinking was inevitable. \_\_\_\_\_
6. The crew started loading women and children onto the lifeboats. \_\_\_\_\_
7. The number of lifeboats was not enough to carry all those aboard. \_\_\_\_\_
8. The passengers felt terrified. \_\_\_\_\_
9. The wireless radio operators kept sending distress signals. \_\_\_\_\_
10. Their efforts were useless. \_\_\_\_\_
11. The fate of the ship became obvious. \_\_\_\_\_
12. The sinking of the *Titanic* was rapid. \_\_\_\_\_
13. After the *Titanic* disaster, changes in the shipping industry were many. \_\_\_\_\_
14. Radio operations on ships must be always open. \_\_\_\_\_
15. The number of lifeboats must be adequate for passengers and crew. \_\_\_\_\_
16. Today, ship passengers can be certain of a safe voyage. \_\_\_\_\_

## Predicate Adjectives

### More Practice

### A. Identifying Predicate Adjectives and the Words They Modify

Underline the predicate adjective in each of the following sentences. Write the word it modifies on the line to the right.

1. The huge crowd appeared excited. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Our guests were weary after their long trip. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Frank looked ridiculous in his baggy costume. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The old gray mansion was famous for antique furniture. \_\_\_\_\_
5. These old stamps might be valuable in the future. \_\_\_\_\_
6. The floral wallpaper looks perfect in the hall. \_\_\_\_\_
7. That chair is amazingly heavy for its size. \_\_\_\_\_
8. In May, the lake is still too cold for swimming. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Doesn't the kitten's fur feel soft? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Something in the refrigerator smells rotten. \_\_\_\_\_

### B. Writing Predicate Adjectives

Complete each sentence with a predicate adjective. Write the predicate adjective on the line.

1. The *Titanic* was \_\_\_\_\_.
2. At the beginning of the voyage, the passengers felt \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The iceberg must have been \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The lifeboats were \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The crew seemed \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The water, dotted with icebergs, must have been \_\_\_\_\_.
7. It was \_\_\_\_\_ to watch the *Titanic* sink.
8. After the disaster, everyone felt \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Ship captains probably became more \_\_\_\_\_ about traveling near icebergs.
10. Now, ships are \_\_\_\_\_ than ever before.

## Application

Use the word at the beginning of each item as a predicate adjective in a sentence.

**EXAMPLE** creative *Artists are creative.*

1. nervous \_\_\_\_\_
2. proud \_\_\_\_\_
3. young \_\_\_\_\_
4. truthful \_\_\_\_\_
5. joyful \_\_\_\_\_
6. wise \_\_\_\_\_
7. terrible \_\_\_\_\_
8. full \_\_\_\_\_
9. frightening \_\_\_\_\_
10. impossible \_\_\_\_\_

## B. Writing a Paragraph Using Predicate Adjectives

A disaster such as the sinking of the *Titanic* brings out the best and the worst in people. Imagine that you are a survivor of the *Titanic*. Write a paragraph in which you recall how you felt on that night. Describe how the people around you acted and what happened to them and the ship. Use at least five predicate adjectives in your description. Use a verb other than a form of *be* in at least two of the sentences. Underline the predicate adjectives in your paragraph.

[illegible]